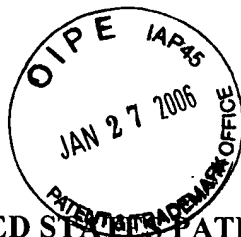


Docket No.: 050103-0574



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 49745
Xiaoding MA, et al. : Confirmation Number: 3136
Application No.: 10/776,223 : Group Art Unit: 1756
Filed: February 12, 2004 : Examiner: Angebranndt, Martin J.

For: GRANULAR MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIA WITH IMPROVED CORROSION
RESISTANCE BY PRE-CARBON OVERCOAT ION ETCHING

STATUS INQUIRY


Mail Stop Status Inquiry
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The above-referenced application was filed on February 12, 2004. Since almost two years have elapsed since that date, and no Action to said application has been received by attorney for applicant, Applicants respectfully request that the undersigned agent be informed of the status of the referenced application. It is noted that the Official Gazette indicates applications filed on or before March 8, 2004 in the above-assigned Group Art Unit should have received an Action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP


Aaron Weisstuch, Ph.D.
Registration No. 41,557

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Washington, DC 20005-3096
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Date: January 27, 2006

**Please recognize our Customer No. 49745
as our correspondence address.**